(b) if so, the number of such vehicles being used by the officers of the Ministry and the names and designations of these Officers;

(c) whether these Officers are entitled for private use of these vehicles;

(d) if not, what action Government have taken or propose to take to recover the cost of unauthorised use of these vehicles from the concerned Officers; and

(e) how much expenditure has been incurred on POL and maintenance of these vehicles during the past one year, vehicle-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise. However, it may be mentioned that as per Rules, staff cars when not required for official journey can be used occasionally on non-duty journeys on payment basis at the prescribed rate. Besides, officers of the rank of Secretary to the Government of India and above and Chief executives of autonomous bodies etc. are also allowed use of staff cars for private purposes upto a distance of 500 Kms. per month on payment of the prescribed charges.

Operation of Calcutta Metro on Sundays

*257. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated total number of passengers carried by the Calcutta Metro in each of the years since its inception;

(b) the net earnings of the Metro in 1995-96 and 1996-97; and

(c) whether, in view of the large public demand, it is proposed to operate the Metro on Sundays too?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a)

Year	Number of passengers carried by Calcutta Metro
1984-85	14,65,520
1985-86	27,57,465
1986-87	98,41,256
1987-88	1,58,05,920
1988-89	1,69,76,135
1989-90	1,97,74,548
1990-91	2,26,41,268
1991-92	2,41,44,084
1992-93	1,54,56,582
1993-94	1,58,61,882
1994-95	1,94,86,481
1995-96	4,32,76,008
1996-97	6,25,86,502
1997-98 (upto June'97)	1,57,37,925

(b) Net earnings of the Metro:

1995-96 (–) Rs. 13.78 crore (loss)
1996-97 (–) Rs. 15.64 crore (loss)

(c) Calcutta Metro is operated on Sundays also. However, in veiw of less traffic, as compared to other week days, and also for providing maintenance blocks, the commercial service period on Sundays is from 1500 hrs. to 2200 hrs. with the last train leaving from either direction at 2120 hrs.

Opening of "Ability Schools" in Delhi

*258. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Ability Schools" are proposed to be opened in Delhi in the near future;

(b) if so, the objectives for such project with highlights of such schools in comparison to Sarvodaya Vidyalayas already functioning;